
Minutes

Board of Natural Resources “Special” Meeting

January 18, 2005
Natural Resources Building, Olympia, Washington

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VIA CONFERENCE PHONE

Bob Nichols for Governor Christine Gregoire

Terry Bergeson, Superintendent of Public Instruction

Ted Anderson, Commissioner, Skagit County

Bruce Bare, Dean, University of Washington, College of Forest Resources

R. James Cook, Interim Dean, Washington State University, College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT IN THE NRB

Doug Sutherland, Commissioner of Public Lands

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Sutherland called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. on, Tuesday January 18, 2005, in Room 172 of the Natural Resources Building.

SELECTION OF CHAIR

MOTION: Superintendent Bergeson moved to nominate Chair Sutherland as Chair of the Board of Natural Resources.

SECOND: Dr. Cook seconded.

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously.

SELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

MOTION: Chair Sutherland moved to nominate Dr. Bare as Vice-Chair of the Board of Natural Resources.

SECOND: Commissioner Anderson seconded.

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Bergeson asked Chair Sutherland if he'd heard anything regarding DNR's budget and legislation?

Chair Sutherland responded that to date DNR staff had met before the Senate Committee and found that the committee is made up of individuals that are relatively knowledgeable about DNR's day-to-day issues. He said that DNR has taken four agency bills to the legislature and for the most part they have been relatively well received. He stated that the bill asking for an increase in the retainage fee had been scrutinized and there would be work to do in that area. He added that in the House there is a new Chair

with virtually no experience in the Natural Resources arena. He felt that DNR would have to spend some time educating this committee on DNR's mission and purpose.

Ms. Bergeson asked who the Chair was?

Chair Sutherland responded that the new Chair was Representative Brian Sullivan from District 21. He added that Representative Sullivan seemed very open to learning more about the Department and working with DNR on legislative issues.

Mr. Bare asked what other three bills DNR would be bringing to the legislature.

Chair Sutherland responded that the other three bills are aquatics related: mitigation banking, authority to buy & sell aquatic lands, & recodification. He answered Ms. Bergeson's earlier question regarding the budget by stating that so far he hadn't heard any discussion on that issue. He felt that people were waiting for Governor Gregoire's input and it could be until the March forecast before the legislature focuses on the budgetary issues.

Chair Sutherland asked Ms. Bergeson what she had experienced with the legislature this session?

Ms. Bergeson said Governor Gregoire had appointed Laurie Dolan as the Chief Policy Director. She commented that she has known Ms. Dolan for many years and that she was a 30-year educator from the Spokane School District. She added that Ms. Dolan doesn't have a lot of Natural Resource experience but she's bright and has integrity, as well as a strong bi-partisan base.

Mr. Nichols added that Ms. Dolan was previously the administrative head of the Spokane School District.

Chair Sutherland asked about Mr. Nichols status as the Designee to the Board of Natural Resources for the Governor?

Mr. Nichols responded that he was asked to stay on until the legislative session had adjourned and at that point he would be evaluated to see if he would remain in his current position.

Chair Sutherland asked if there was anyone else present wishing to make comment before the Board? Seeing none, hearing none.

Meeting adjourned at 9:17 a.m.

Approved this ____ day of _____, 2005

Doug Sutherland, Commissioner of Public Lands

Bob Nichols for Governor Christine Gregoire

Bruce Bare, Dean, University of Washington

R. James Cook, Dean, Washington State University (Interim)

Terry Bergeson, Superintendent of Public Instruction

Ted Anderson, Commissioner, Skagit County

Attest:

Sasha Lange, Board Coordinator